

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL NAHA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

INFO CINCPAC

COGARD

GOVGUAM

TREASURY

XMT AMEMBASSY SUVA

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TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: AUGUST 13 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. JAPAN

REUTER (TOKYO) CITES ASAHI REPORT, SOURCED TO LDP LEADERS BRIEFED BY MIKI ON WASHINGTON VISIT, THAT MIKI CONVEYED KIM IL-SUNG MESSAGE TO PRES; SOURCES SAY PRES REPLIED HAD ALREADY HEARD CONTENTS DIRECTLY FROM NK. REUTER NOTES HABIB TOLD PRESS AUG 6 NO MESSAGE(FROM NK THROUGH MIKI) HANDED OVER.

IN FIRST TV NEWS CONFERENCE AFTER RETURN FROM WASHINGTON, MIKI SAID TUESDAY, "SATISFIED" WITH TALKS WITH FORD LAST WEEK. SAID HELPED REINFORCE FRIENDLY US-JAPAN TIES, UNCLASSIFIED

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AND HE AND PRES AGREED COOPERATE FOR WORLD PEACE, STABILITY (UPI, NYDN).

MIKI TOLD PRESS SK SECURITY "VITAL" TO SECURITY OF JAPAN;

HE AND PRES AGREED ON NEED CONTINUED US TROOP PRESENCE IN SK TO MAINTAIN PEACE IN KOREAN PENINSULA (UPI, TOKYO). SAID SEES NO DIFFERENCE IN US, JAPAN POSITIONS ON KOREA. REPLIED TO QUERY THAT JOINT COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE ON "STABILITY ON THE PENINSULA" NO CHANGE FROM EARLIER

FORMULATIONS, BECAUSE SK STABILITY DEPENDS IN LARGER PERSPECTIVE ON STABILITY IN PENINSULA (AP, TOKYO).

SAAR (WP) SAYS MIKI STRESSED MAJOR TOPIC WITH FORD WAS PREVENTION FUTURE WAR IN KOREA. SAID US, JAPAN AGREE ON NEED AVOID SUDDEN CHANGE IN MIL BALANCE THAT COULD INVITE CLASH THROUGH "SHEER MISCALCULATION." IN CASE KOREAN EMERGENCY, SAID JAPAN COULD APPROVE OR REJECT US USE OF JAPAN BASES UNDER PRIOR CONSULTATION ARRANGEMENT. ADDED SECDEF, MINDEF TO DISCUSS COMMON DEFENSE INTERESTS LATER IN MONTH.

HALLORAN (NYT) NOTES MIKI CALLED ON LEFTIST OPPOSITION PARTIES STOP BLOCKING LEGISLATION, WARNED DIET COULD NOT FUNCTION IN FACE THEIR "ALL OR NOTHING" ATTITUDE. NOTES MIKI DENIED INTENT CALL ELECTIONS THIS YEAR, BUT MANY POLITICIANS INCLUDING LDP DIETMEN ALREADY CAMPAIGNING.

USDA'S BUTZ, MINAG ABE TUESDAY TOLD JOINT PRESS CONFERENCE JAPAN AGREED BUY AT LEAST 42 MILLION TONS GRAIN, SOYBEANS FROM US OVER NEXT THREE YEARS. BUTZ EXPLAINED US "TEMPORARILY DELAYING" FURTHER SOVIET SALES TO PROTECT PROJECTED SALES JAPAN, OTHER REGULAR CUSTOMERS. ABE SAID JAPAN NOT LIKE SOVIETS WHO COME INTO MARKET EVERY THREE YEARS; JAPAN BUYS MINIMUM 14 MILLION TONS GRAIN ANNUALLY, FEELS SHOULD BE GIVEN CONSIDERATION BY US (UPI PHINQ, NYDN, WP, CHITRIB) BUTZ, ABE SAID "GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT" ASSURES JAPAN COULD CONTINUE BUY US GRAINS WITHOUT FEAR OF US EXPORT CONTROLS (JOC, WASHINGTON).

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BANK OF JAPAN CUTS OFFICIAL DISCOUNT RATE, EFFECTIVE WEDNESDAY, FROM 8 TO 7.5 PERCENT, TO STIMULATE PROTRACTED SLUMP (UPI, NYT). DID NOT REDUCE RESERVE REQUIREMENT, DEPOSIT INTEREST RATE (CULLISON, JOC). MOVE EXPECTED TO BE FOLLOWED NEXT MONTH BY FISCAL STIMULANTS, INCLUDING ADDITIONAL GOJ OUTLAYS FOR HOUSING, PUBLIC WORKS, AND GOJ EXPECTED SUBMIT EXPANSIONARY SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET TO SPECIAL SESSION OF DIET SCHEDULED SEPT (WSJ).

SOURCE SAYS RED ARMY TERRORIST INCIDENT IN KL COST JAL ABOUT 660,000 DOLS (AP, TOKYO).

MATSUSHITA ELEC CORP OF AMERICA SAYS FTC PLANS CHARGE

IT MADE MISLEADING ADVERTISING CLAIM ABOUT EASE OF SERVICING SOME COLOR TV SETS; WILL CONTEST COMPLAINT (WSJ, WASHINGTON).

KYOTO CERAMIC TUESDAY CLAIMED CREATED ARTIFICIAL EMERALDS NEARLY SAME QUALITY AS NATURAL GEMS. PLANS MARKET AT HALF PRICE OF NATURAL STONES, STARTING WITH ACCESSORY JEWELRY IN SEPT (AP, WP; UPI, JOC).

TOWNSEND (LAT 8/10) SAYS JAPANESE-AMERICANS IN LA TOLD PRESS WISHED MEET MIKI TO DISCUSS CONCERN JAPANESE FIRMS TAKING UNFAIR ADVANTAGE OF PUBLICLY-FINANCED COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT PROJECTS TO "TAKE OVER" LITTLE TOKYO. SAYS NOT KNOWN WHETHER MIKI KNEW OF REQUEST FOR MEETING BLOCKED BY JAPAN CONGEN.

2. KOREA

UPI (TOKYO) CITES KCNA REPORT THAT NK WELCOMES UN PROPOSAL FOR NEW PEACE PACT BETWEEN NK, SK, WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN TROOPS FROM AREA. KCNA QUOTES NK GOVT STATEMENT MONDAY THAT PROPOSAL "CORRECTLY REFLECTS" COMMON ASPIRATIONS OF KOREAN PEOPLE, WILL CONTRIBUTE GREATLY TO CONVERTING TRUCE INTO DURABLE PEACE.

3. INDOCHINA

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NVN, SVN UN OBSERVERS SAY US TOTALLY ISOLATED IN OPPOSING MEMBERSHIP THEIR COUNTRIES, AND POLICY WILL EVENTUALLY FAIL (WP). ADD MOVE COULD JEOPARDIZE DISCUSSIONS ABOUT MIAS, AND SAIGON GOVT SHOWING GOOD WILL THROUGH WILLINGNESS DISCUSS OFFSHORE OIL EXPLORATION-- BUT HOSTILE ATTITUDE ADOPTED BY US REP AT UNSC "PREVENTS THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NORMAL RELATIONS" (NYDN).

AIRLIFT BEGINS OF 16,000 FOREIGNERS LEFT IN SVN AFTER COMMUNIST TAKEOVER. FIRST FLIGHT HAULS 72, INCLUDING 3 AMCITS, TO BANGKOK VIA ROYAL AIR LAO (NYDN). ALSO ABOARD WERE 57 FRENCH, BELGIAN AMB TO FORMER GVN, OTHER ASIANS, EUROPEANS. ONE PASSENGER SAID MANY SVN FRENCH LONG-TERM RESIDENTS HOPED CONTINUE UNDER NEW REGIME; BUT WITH INCREASING RESTRICTIONS, STAGNATION OF COMMERCE, BECAME OBVIOUS PLANS WOULD NOT WORK (PHINQ). FLIGHT WAS FIRST OF AT LEAST 5 CHARTERED BY FRENCH GOVT THAT SOME SAY INITIATED IN FACE GROWING DIFFICULTIES DOING BUSINESS IN SVN; NEW REGIME EXPRESSES WILLINGNESS HAVE FOREIGN BUSINESSES IN COUNTRY, BUT HAS DONE LITTLE MAKE IT POSSIBLE FOR FOREIGNERS OPERATE. PERSONS WHO LEFT ON RECENT UN FLIGHTS REPORTED SIGNS NEW SVN

GOVT, PLAGUED WITH ECON/POL PROBLEMS, LACK OF COOPERATION FROM POPULACE, FINDS FOREIGN COMMUNITY NUISANCE, WANTS PARE IT DOWN (AP, SUN).

INTELL SOURCES SAY SVN GOVT ARRESTS THICH TRI QUANG, ONCE BRANDED COMMUNIST BUDDHIST" BY FOREIGN PRESS. MONK HAD BEEN PUBLICLY CONDEMNED BY SAIGON NEWS AGENCY AFTER SVN CAPTURE (PHINQ) FOR REPEATEDLY DEMANDING TO KNOW WHAT HAPPENED POLICY RECONCILIATION BETWEEN VARIOUS GROUPS IN VN (AP, WP).

SIHANOUK IN PYONGYANG SAID WORRIED ABOUT RETURN TO PP, REPORTEDLY FEARS FOR SAFETY IF RETURNS WITH ONLY WIFE, GRUNK PREMIER, AS SUGGESTED BY KR. PRINCE'S RETINUE BELIEVES BEING DENIED ACCESS TO CAMBODIA (LONDON TIMES, NYT).

PL TROOPS FIRED RIFLES IN DIRECTION EMBASSY STAFF MEMBERS IN VIENTIANE TUESDAY, LATER BRIEFLY DETAINED THEM (CSM) UNCLASSIFIED

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AFTER THEY VISITED COMANDEERED US WAREHOUSE. EMBASSY CALLS IT MINOR INCIDENT, DOES NOT PLAN PROTEST.

ROSEMARY CONWAY DEPARTS LAOS FOR THAILAND; EMBASSY SPOKESMAN SAYS SHE APPEARS IN REASONABLY GOOD CONDITION. HER RELEASE BELIEVED GESTURE TOWARD NEW CHARGE CORCORAN, WHO TOOK POST 8/12 (AP, WP).

AFSC SIGNS AGREEMENT PROVIDE 50,000 DOLS IN RICE FOR LAOS, TO SUPPLANT IN PART RECENTLY-DEPARTED USAID. MOST WILL GO TO REFUGEES IN PDJ AREA. AFSC ADDS WILL GO AHEAD WITH PURCHASE, DELIVERY FOOD, EQUIPMENT FOR NVN, SVN DESPITE USG PROHIBITION (UPI, WP).

4. INDOCHINA REFUGEES

REP EILBERG CHARGES USAF OFFICERS DRUGGED 13 VIETS, TOOK THEM FROM THAILAND TO GUAM AGAINST WILL DURING EVACUATION; WANTS EXPLANATION. EILBERG CURRENTLY ON GUAM AS PART INVESTIGATION BY HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE (REUTER, NYT). USAF CONFIRMS REFUGEES DRUGGED, PUT ON PLANE TO GUAM WHEN THEY DEMANDED RETURN TO VN; SAYS THEY WERE HYSTERICAL, THREATENED SUICIDE. THAI OFFICIALS REFUSED LET THEM STAY, SO DECISION MADE TO SEDATE THEM, SEND TO GUAM BECAUSE NO MEANS TAKE THEM BACK TO SVN IN HOPE COULD BE REPATRIATED EXPEDITIOUSLY (AP, SUN). REFUGEES WERE SVN FLIGHT CREWS WHO WERE TOLD GOING TO DELTA, BECAME HYSTERICAL WHEN DISCOVERED THEY HAD LANDED IN THAILAND. DOD SAYS HOURS OF DISCUSSION FAILED CONVINC 13 NO MEANS EXISTED RETURN THEM TO SVN, WHILE THAI OFFICIALS ADAMANT THAT REFUGEES

LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. REFUGEES STATE 3 US COLS THREATENED SHOOT THEM IF THEY DIDN'T GO TO GUAM, AND THEY WERE BEATEN WHEN REFUSED BOARD PLANE (WILSON, WP).

TENS OF THOUSANDS INDOCHINESE ROAM SEA LOOKING FOR COUNTRY THAT WILL TAKE THEM. MOST COUNTRIES RESPONDED LESS GENEROUSLY TO PLIGHT THAN THEY HAD PROMISED, SO THOUSANDS APPEAR DESTINED REMAIN IN THAI CAMPS OR AS ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS. SITUATION WORRYING, EXPENSIVE FOR RTG. UNHCR SEEKS HOMES FOR REFUGEES, ADMITS TASK MAY TAKE YRS (LONDON OBSERVER'S UNCLASSIFIED

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KELLY, WP).

IN HK, 257 VIET REFUGEES DEPART FOR CHAFFEE; AT KL, US SPOKESMAN SAYS 297 OTHERS WILL GO US VIA GUAM. IN TOKYO, NVN DEL LEADER SAYS VIET REFUGEES IN US WILL NOT BE ALLOWED BACK INTO COUNTRY UNLESS USG NEGOTIATE RETURN WITH HANOI OR SAIGON.

5. THAILAND

RTG FONMIN IN CANBERRA AFTER DISCUSSIONS WITH AUSSIE PM, FONMIN; SAYS HIS GOVT NOT SEEKING ANOTHER DEFENSE PACT REPLACE SEATO SINCE WAR OVER, "DO NOT NEED COLLECTIVE DEFENSE ANY MORE" (AFP, PHINQ).

THAI OFFICERS SAY COMMUNIST GUERRILLAS KILLED 25 POLICE, TROOPS IN PAST 5 WKS IN DISTRICT NEAR LAO BORDER. ADD INTENSIFIED INSURGENT ACTIONS PROMPTED RTG SEND JOINT POLICE-ARMY UNIT TO CONTROL AREA (AP, WP).

6. TIMOR

UDT SAYS COUP SUCCESSFUL. IMMEDIATE INDEPENDENCE DEMAND PRESENTED PORTUGUESE AUTHORITIES 8/12 IN DILI. MACAO GOVT REPORTS 300 PORTUGUESE EVACUATED FROM TIMOR EN ROUTE AUSTRALIA. GOA EXPRESSES CONCERN INDONESIA MAY SEE TIMOR UNREST AS EXCUSE FOR MILITARY INTERVENTION ON WESTERN HALF OF ISLAND. LISBON REMAINS ADAMANT, STATING PORTUGUESE GOV IN FULL CONTROL (REUTER, NYT; CSM; WP).

7. AUSTRALIA

DEFMIN MORRISON ASKS US, SOVIETS STOP INDIAN OCEAN ARMS BUILDUP; TELLS PRESS GOA, INDIAN OCEAN STATES HAVE RESPONSIBILITY TO PREVENT "CREEPING ESCALATION" IN AREA. EXPRESSED HOPE US, SOVIETS WOULD SOON HOLD TALKS REGARDING THEIR INDIAN OCEAN ACTIVITIES (REUTER, SYDNEY).

HARTLEY (WSJ) REPORTS GOA, PLAGUED BY ECONOMIC ILLS, SLOW-

LY MOVING TOWARD RIGHT, FAVORING TIGHTER MONEY, BIG BUSI-
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NESS OVER UNIONS. FOREIGN-INVESTMENT POLICY TURNAROUND
MAY DEVELOP, WITH AUSTRALIA ONCE AGAIN OPENING DOORS TO
FOREIGNERS. OBSERVERS THINK WHITLAM ABLE SUCCEED WITH PRO-
POSED CHANGES, AS LABOR POLITICIANS FEAR PUSHING HIM INTO
FORCED ELECTION WOULD PROBABLY DOOM ALP.

AUSTRALIAN REACTION TO 15 PCT DEVALUATION NZ DOLLAR SHARP,
WITH PRIMARY COMMODITIES' PRODUCERS MOST VOCAL. MEAT
INDUSTRY SPOKESMEN WARN MOVE WOULD GIVE NZ COMPETITIVE EDGE.
QUEENSLAND PREMIER ASKS GOA FOLLOW SUIT, DEVALUING AUSTRAL-
IAN DOLLAR BY 15 PCT (JOC).

GOA'S RECENT MEASURES SEEKING STIMULATE AUTO SALES WILL
PROVIDE BIGGER BOOST TO JAPANESE CARS THAN LOCAL AUTOS
OF GM, FORD, CHRYSLER. LOCAL CAR INDUSTRIES GUARANTEED
80 PCT MARKET SHARE, BUT MEASURE ALSO APPLIES TO VEHICLES
LOCALLY ASSEMBLED FROM IMPORTED PARTS, THUS GIVING JAP-
ANESE IMPORTS EDGE (STOVE, JOC).

CANBERRA PLANS CELEBRATE US BICEN BECAUSE CITY'S CHIEF
PLANNER WAS AMERICAN ARCHITECT WALTER GRIFFIN. IN HONOR
US BICEN, GOA ANNOUNCED COMPETITION FOR MEMORIAL TO
GRIFFIN, OPEN TO BOTH AUSTRALIANS, AMCITS. FIRST PRIZE
3,250 DOLS, AND GOA PREPARED SPEND 130,000 DOLS FOR MONU-
MENT'S CONSTRUCTION (MILLAR, CSM).

8. PHILIPPINES

PHIL MILITARY SOURCES REPORT AT LEAST 108 PERSONS KILLED
DURING SINGLE FIGHTING INCIDENT BETWEEN MOSLEM SECESSIONIST
REBELS AND GOVT FORCES IN 2 SOUTHERN PROVINCES 8/8. ARMED
CLASHES 8/9 ON JOLO ISLAND LEFT 69 REBELS DEAD DURING
4-HOUR BATTLE (UPI PHINQ, WP).

MOSLEM RAIDERS KIDNAPPED DANISH PLANTATION MANAGER IN
SOUTHERN PHILS, DEMANDED 13,300 DOLS RANSOM. MANILA MIL-
ITARY MADE NO COMMENT ON REPORT. MOSLEM REBELS, REPORT-
EDLY DEMANDING 4,000 DOLS PER MONTH TO PERMIT OPERATION
LOGGING TRUCKS, FORCED JULY 15 CLOSING US-OPERATED MULTI-
MIL DOL MARANAW TIMER CO (AP).

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9. BURMA

ECON INEFFICIENCY STIFLES NATURAL RICHES, PUTS COUNTRY
ON ROAD TO RUIN DESPITE SPECTACULAR AMBITIONS NE WIN

REGIME. REORGANIZATION FAILED, SHORTAGES DEVELOPED, BLACK MARKET FLOURISHES. OFFSHORE OIL IS HOPE, WITH FOREIGN CONSORTIA DRILLING EXPLORATORY WELLS; BUT ECONOMY REMAINS SUBSISTENCE ONE, WITH MOST FAMILIES GROWING OWN RICE; DESPITE DETERIORATING CONDITIONS, FEW GO HUNGRY. TOURIST EARNINGS STILL ONLY TRICKLE. NE WIN HAS HEART CONDITION AND SUBORDINATES REPORTEDLY JOCKEY FOR POSITION IN GOVT THAT WILL FOLLOW HIS DEATH (AP, WP).

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

10. CHINA

SUN SEES HANGCHOW DISTURBANCES INDICATING PRC COMPROMISE COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP STILL HAS TROUBLE ACHIEVING UNITY IT HAD PREACHED FOR PAST YEAR; BUT FEELS UNLIKELY PRC POLITICAL CLIMATE, IF IT REMAINS NO MORE TROUBLED THAN AT PRESENT, WILL AFFECT PRES FORD'S TRIP TO PEKING-- FOR US AND PRC HAVE MUCH THEY NEED AND WANT TO DISCUSS (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

ANDERSON/WHITTEN SAY NIXON HAS CONFIDED TO FRIENDS THAT MAO TSE-TUNG HAS INVITED HIM TO VISIT PRC AGAIN; EX-PRES HASN'T ACCEPTED BECAUSE HE WISHES COMPLETE MEMOIRS BEFORE ENDING SAN CLEMENTE ISOLATION (WP).

11. KOREA

SCHMIDT (CSM) SPOTLIGHTS MAJOR FIGHT SHAPING UP IN UN THIS FALL OVER KOREA, WITH US "POISED TO RESIST ALL EFFORTS" TO ISOLATE SK FROM INTL COMMUNITY. NOTES US DETERMINED FIND WAY PERSERVE 1953 ARMISTICE, BUT 35 COMMUNIST, THIRD WORLD STATES DEMAND PEACE TREATY BETWEEN US, NK, LEAVING OUT SK AS THOUGH DOES NOT EVEN EXIST (U WIRELESS FILE).

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12. UN

NYDN ENDORSES US VETO OF VN UN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS; HOLDS THAT IF SUCH TOUGHNESS EVENTUALLY LEADS TO OUR PULLING OUT AND THROWING UN OUT OF US, MORE THAN FEW AMERICANS "WILL PROVE ABLE TO CONTROL THEIR GRIEF."

NYT FEELS US ABSOLUTELY RIGHT IN INSISTING UNIVERSAL MEMBERSHIP BE UN RULE, BUT DECISION TO CARRY THIS TO POINT OF VETOING VNS' ADMISSIONS SEEMS CERTAIN TO PROVE COUNTERPRODUCTIVE, FROM VIEW BOTH OF OUR OWN INTERESTS AND OF SOUND POWER BALANCE IN FAR EAST. NO IMMEDIACY IN SK BID, WHEREAS US COULD SUFFER DAMAGE

TO ITS PACIFIC POSTURE BY PERPETRATING ADVERSARY RELATIONSHIP WITH HANOI (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).

CSM ARGUES THERE ARE CURRENTLY MORE ARGUMENTS FOR ADMITTING SK TO UN THAN VNS. HOWEVER, US VETO WAS UNABASHEDLY POLITICAL ACT; AS UN GROWS MORE POLITICIZED, UN IS NET LOSER (IN USIA WIRELESS FILE).
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